

Message Text

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SUBJ: WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

USIA FOR INA/AUSTIN

1. PSYCHOLOGICAL CLIMATE ONE OF POSITIVE EXPECTATION. DR. KISSINGER'S VISIT TO MOROCCO, COMING AS IT DID ON THE EVE OF THE ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN RABAT, PRODUCED A LARGE VOLUME OF MEDIA COMMENT WHICH RANGED FROM THE LAUDATORY AND MODERATE TONE OF THE SEMI-OFFICIAL PRESS, AND RADIO-TV NETWORK, TO THE NEGATIVE TONE OF THE OPPOSITION ISTIQLAL PRESS. THE SEMI-OFFICIAL FRENCH LANGUAGE DAILY MAROC SOIR OF OCTOBER 14 PUBLISHED A LONG EDITORIAL (REPRINTED BY THE SEMI-OFFICIAL LE MATIN OF OCTOBER 15) ENTITLED "WELCOME MR. KISSINGER" WHICH BEGAN BY RECALLING THE 200 YEAR OLD FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE U.S. AND MOROCCO AND WHICH REMINDED US THAT WE HAD CAST BREAD ON THE WATERS SIXTY-TWO YEARS AGO. MAROC SOIR SAID "OUR COUNTRY HAS BEEN ON YOUR SIDE EACH TIME WE HAD TO DEFEND JUSTICE AND LAW...WE WILL NEVER FORGET THAT THE U.S. NEVER RECOGNIZED THE PROTECTORATE TREATY OF 1912."

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MAROC SOIR SUGGESTED STRONGLY THAT PART OF DR. KISSINGER'S

SUCCESS IN HIS FIRST MISSION TO THE MID-EAST COULD BE ATTRIBUTED TO HIS TALKS WITH KING HASSAN II IN NOVEMBER 1973, THOUGH MAROC SOIR ADDED THAT THE CREATION OF "A CLIMATE OF COMPREHENSION AND CONFIDENCE WAS...BASICALLY DUE TO YOUR INTELLIGENCE, AWARENESS OF THE FACTS, PERSISTENCE, AND YOUR EXCEPTIONAL VALUE AS A NEGOTIATOR AND MEDIATOR." MAROC SOIR CONTINUED "THESE QUALITIES WERE NEEDED TO ACHIEVE THE REAL MIRACLE OF THE OPENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE WHERE THE ARABS AND ISRAELIS WILL SIT FACE TO FACE IN A SINGLE HALL TO REPLACE FIGHTING BY DEBATE. HOWEVER, WE MUST RECOGNIZE THAT SUCH RESULTS WERE OBTAINED BECAUSE OF ARAB GOOD WILL. THE ARAB COUNTRIES HAVE PAID YOU THE TRIBUTE YOU DESERVE. BUT, ALL THESE RESULTS, AS YOU KNOW, ARE JUST A BEGINNING DESPITE THEIR IMPORTANCE. THE PROBLEM REMAINS INTEGRAL...SO LONG AS THE BASIC QUESTION OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IS NOT SETTLED.... YOU HAVE BEEN ABLE TO NOTE THAT THE ARAB STATES MADE A MAJOR CONCESSION - THAT IS, THE IMPLIED RECOGNITION OF THE EXISTENCE OF ISRAEL PROVIDED THAT THE ISRAELI FORCES PULL OUT OF THE ARAB OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND THAT THE NATIONAL RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS ARE RECOGNIZED. THIS NEW APPROACH TOWARD THE PROBLEM HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BY THE NEW CLIMATE TO WHICH CREATION YOU CONTRIBUTED AND THE FACT THAT THE PALESTINIANS THEMSELVES ARE READY TO START NEGOTIATIONS WITH ISRAEL TO BRING ABOUT AN AGREEMENT WHICH WILL LEAD TO COEXISTENCE. SUCH OPPORTUNITIES ARE RARE AND MUST NOT BE MISSED, BECAUSE THEY WILL NOT OCCUR AGAIN....WE KNOW MR. KISSINGER, THAT IT IS THE CHIEF OF THE AMERICAN DIPLOMACY WHO CAN, BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE, FIND A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM. YOU HAVE THE MATERIAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL MEANS TO SHOW ISRAEL WHERE ITS INTERESTS REST...THIS PROBLEM IS THE ONLY ONE...WHICH POSES A THREAT TO WORLD PEACE...LASTLY, YOUR VISIT TO MOROCCO TAKES PLACE AT A CRUCIAL TIME. IT COMES ON THE EVE OF THE ARAB SUMMIT IN RABAT AND THE VERY IMPORTANT DISCUSSIONS AT THE UN CONCERNING TWO PROBLEMS WHICH DIRECTLY INTEREST MOROCCO; THE PALESTINE PROBLEM AND OUR SAHARA...THESE TWO QUESTIONS WILL NOT ESCAPE DIS-

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CUSSION DURING YOUR UP-COMING MEETINGS WITH KING HASSAN II. THE MEETINGS WILL BE PRODUCTIVE, USEFUL, PRECIOUS AND INSTRUCTIVE..." A SEMI-OFFICIAL MOROCCAN RADIO-TV COMMENTARY OF OCTOBER 15 SAID DR. KISSINGER "SHARES WITH US THE DESIRE FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE." LE MATIN ALSO PUBLISHED THE TEXT OF KING HASSAN'S SPEECH TO THE NATIONAL PRESS CLUB OF WASHINGTON IN 1967 AND REPRODUCED ON

THE FRONT PAGE THE ENTIRE HANDWRITTEN TEXT OF THE LETTER GEORGE WASHINGTON SENT TO KING MOHAMMED THE THIRD IN 1776. THE OPPOSITION FRENCH LANGUAGE DAILY L'OPINION COMMENTED, "IN ASPIRING FOR THE COMING STATE OF NEGOTIATIONS OUTSIDE THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, DR. KISSINGER MUST EVADE THE QUESTION OF REPRESENTATION OF THE PALESTINE PEOPLE." L'OPINION SAID "THE STATEMENT BY DR. KISSINGER THAT HE WANTS TO LINK THE PALESTINE PROBLEM TO THE OIL QUESTION... IS A POLICY OF BLACKMAIL...THIS POLICY OF IMPERIALISM CANNOT SURPRISE US ANY LONGER. IT IS JUST ONE MORE STEP IN THE GENERAL CONTEXT OF THE PERMANENT IMPERIALIST-ZIONIST POLICY IN THE MIDDLE EAST." THE PREVIOUS DAY THE ISTIQLAL DAILY PUBLISHED A PROVOCATIVE EDITORIAL: "THE POSITIONS OF THE BELLIGERENTS HAVE CRYSTALIZED. PERHAPS A NEW WAR IS A MUST TO FREE THE SITUATION. - THE NEW WAR THE WHOLE WORLD BELIEVES IS UNAVOIDABLE. THIS IS WHY THE UNITED STATES SUPPLIES ISRAEL WITH UNPRECEDENTED ARMAMENTS." THE ISTIQLAL ARAB LANGUAGE DAILY AL-ALAM ECHOED L'OPINION AND MAY EVEN HAVE GONE FURTHER; ITS OCTOBER 12 AND 13 EDITIONS AND THE FIRST EDITION OF OCTOBER 14 WERE CONFISCATED BY THE GOVERNMENT, WHICH GAVE NO EXPLANATION FOR ITS ACTION.

2. KISSINGER VISIT: ENTIRE USIS STAFF WAS MOBILIZED FOR SECRETARY OF STATE'S VISIT TO MOROCCO ON 15 OCT. POST PREPARED INFORMATION KITS FOR THE PRESS AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIAL PARTY, STAFFED A PRESS CENTER AT THE HILTON HOTEL, AND MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CREDENTIALS AND SPECIFIC MEDIA REQUESTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE VISIT.

3. RAMADAN CHESS TOURNAMENT: ANNUAL USIS RAMADAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CHESS COMPETITION ENDED OCT. 14 WITH AMBASSADOR NEUMANN ON HAND TO PRESENT PRIZES AND HIS CONGRATULATIONS TO WINNERS. AS A FINALE TO THIS YEAR'S TOURNAMENT, THE WINNER--A PROMINENT RABAT M.D.--PLAYED FIVE OPPONENTS SIMULTANEOUSLY--AND DEFEATED ALL FIVE. THE COMPETITION WAS WELL ATTENDED THIS YEAR AND GAINED GOOD-PRESS COVERAGE DESPITE A SIMILAR COMPETITION ORGANIZED BY SOVIET CULTURAL CENTER. IN FACT, WINNER OF THE SOVIET COMPETITION COULD DO NO BETTER THAN RUNNER-UP IN OUR TOURNAMENT.

4. AGENCY EXHIBIT "PHOTOGRAPHY AS A FINE ART" OPENED IN USIS CENTER GALLERY ON WEDNESDAY, 9 OCTOBER. OPENING DREW AUDIENCE OF 74 PEOPLE DESPITE RAMADAN HOLIDAY BEING OBSERVED THIS MONTH.

5. CLASSES AT AMERICAN LANGUAGE CENTERS IN MOROCCO
OPEN THIS WEEK WITH ALL CENTERS REPORTING REGIS-
TRATIONS RUNNING WELL AHEAD OF LAST YEAR. SOME
CENTERS, IN FACT, ARE FACED WITH NECESSITY OF
IMPROVISING CLASSROOMS DURING THE FIRST FEW WEEKS
OF THE TRIMESTER.
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